

Mayo Clinic Minute: When colon cancer spreads to the liver

Video	Audio
(reporter)	Many colorectal cancers are likely to spread to other organs. The most common site of metastases for colon cancer is the liver.
00:00:51–00:00:54	"That's where a mass will form inside the liver."
00:01:24–00:01:34	"Up to 30% of patients with colon cancer will develop a spot in their liver of metastasis at some point in their fight against colon cancer."
(reporter)	Dr. Sean Cleary says while the diagnosis is serious, recent advances in treatment have improved the outlook for patients.
Sean Cleary, M.D. Surgery Mayo Clinic 00:02:49–00:03:11	"The best options are if we can combine chemotherapy and surgery to remove all of the metastasis from the liver. We can be quite aggressive with that. The liver is a wonderful organ in that it regenerates. So we can remove up to 70% — almost 80% — of someone's liver and still have that 20% to 30% that we leave behind regenerate and regrow so that patients can continue on with their lives."
(reporter)	He says in these situations, applying individualized medicine is key to successful treatment.
00:03:24–00:03:35	"Not only in selecting the chemotherapy that's best for each patient, but also the surgery that will remove all of their liver tumors, and really making sure that we have the right sequence and the right treatment together for each patient."
(reporter)	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.